

Amendment to the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 11 and 21 as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A method for providing an announcement to a calling party when the calling party calls a disconnected telephone number of a called party, the method comprising:

determining a telephone number of a calling party that attempts to call a disconnected telephone number of the called party;

determining, in accordance with at least a portion of the telephone number of the calling party, whether the calling party is authorized to receive a first announcement; and

providing the first announcement to the calling party only if the calling party is authorized by the called party to receive the first announcement.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1 further comprising providing an alternate announcement if the first announcement is not provided.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein the at least a portion of the telephone number includes an area code of the calling party.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 4 wherein the at least a portion of the telephone number further includes at least three digits of the telephone number of the calling party.

6. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein the telephone number comprises information about calling parties that are authorized to receive the first announcement.

7. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein the telephone number comprises information about calling parties that are not authorized to receive the first announcement.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the first announcement is provided by an announcement server.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 8 further including providing a connection from the calling party to the announcement server.

10. (Original) The method according to claim 1 further comprising providing a call log to the called party.

11. (Currently amended) A telecommunications system for providing an announcement to a calling party when the calling party calls a disconnected telephone number of a called party, the system comprising:

a service control point, wherein the service control point determines a telephone number of the calling party attempting to call a disconnected telephone number of the called party and determines, in accordance with at least a portion of the telephone number of the calling party, whether the call party is authorized to receive a first announcement; and

wherein the first announcement is provided to the calling party only if the calling party is authorized by the called party to receive the first announcement.

12. (Original) The system according to claim 11 wherein an alternate announcement is provided if the first announcement is not provided.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 11 wherein the at least a portion of the telephone number includes an area code of the calling party.

15. (Original) The system according to claim 14 wherein the at least a portion of the telephone number further includes at least three digits of the telephone number of the calling party.

16. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 11 wherein the telephone number comprises information about calling parties that are authorized to receive the first announcement.

17. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 11 wherein the telephone number comprises information about calling parties that are not authorized to receive the first announcement.

18. (Original) The system according to claim 11 further including an announcement server, wherein the announcement server provides the first announcement.

19. (Original) The system according to claim 18 further including a switch, wherein the switch provides a connection from the calling party to the announcement server.

20. (Original) The system according to claim 11 further comprising a call log to be provided to the called party.

21. (Currently amended) A method for providing an announcement to a calling party when the calling party calls a disconnected telephone number of a called party, the method comprising:

receiving a call from a calling party to a disconnected telephone number of a called party;

determining a telephone number of the calling party;

determining from at least a portion of the telephone number whether the calling party is authorized to receive call forwarding information of the called party; and

only if the calling party is authorized by the called party, providing call forwarding information of the called party.

22. (Original) The method according to claim 21 further comprising:

if the calling party is not authorized, providing an alternate announcement to the calling party.

23. (Original) The method according to claim 21 wherein the act of determining comprises determining whether the calling party is listed on an accept list.

24. (Original) The method according to claim 21 wherein the act of determining comprises determining whether the calling party is listed on a reject list.